

REMARKS

Applicant provisionally elects, with traverse, Species 2 of Group I and Species 1 of Group 2 for further prosecution in this Application. Claims 33 and 64 read on the former and claims 33, 37-49, 54-66, 69, 70/69, 71, 72, (73-76)/69, and 77-80 read on the latter and are generic to Group 2.

Applicant proposes a new classification. The scheme of the new classification is as follows: Cancel Species Group 1 and slightly modify the species Group 2 to include the following five species (i.e., to discard the current classification in which each of a plurality of groups has a plurality of species):

1. Optical device using variable refractive-index substance containing irregularly arranged molecules;
2. Optical device using variable refractive-index substance containing regularly arranged molecules;
3. Optical device using refraction-type variable optical-property element;
4. Optical device using reflection-type variable optical-property element;
5. Optical device using diffraction-type variable optical-property element.

Of these five species, the Applicant provisionally elects species 4 on which claims 37-83 read.

Also, the Applicant believes that the following classification scheme is reasonable:

- The photographing apparatus, observation apparatus, and display apparatus fall within the wider category “Optical device”.
- The variable mirror is included in the reflection-type variable optical-property element.
- The variable mirror itself is regarded as an optical device.

A prompt and favorable Action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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